

November 13, 2008  
Nemaha Natural Resources District  
Regular Meeting  
Tecumseh, Nebraska

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chair Ted Godemann called the four hundred third meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:10 p.m. Thursday, November 13, 2008, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	John Albrecht	Ron Heskett	Duane Sugden
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Lisa Beethe	David Hunzeker	Paul Weber
	Rob Bohling	Scott Kudrna	Tom White
	Jeff Crunk	Roland Meyer	Jim Wirth
	Orval Gigstad	Steve Sherrow	
	Ted Godemann	Don Siske	

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Jim Rush	Chuck Starr	Dan Watermeier
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Speece	Bruce Walker	

<b>STAFF</b>	Bob Hilske, Manager
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager

<b>GUESTS</b>	Terry Newell, NRCS, Tecumseh
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Steve Sugden, Douglas

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed. Chair Godemann announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall at the back of the room.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of Publication was presented and is on file.

3. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

**Wirth moved, seconded by White, to approve the excused absences requested by Jim Rush, Mike Speece, Chuck Starr, Bruce Walker, and Dan Watermeier. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, NRD staff, NRCS staff, and guest introduced themselves.

5. **MINUTES**

**White moved, seconded by Albrecht, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**White moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

7. **STAFF REPORT**

Hilske, Nelson, and Wingert reviewed their reports.

8. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Terry Newell reviewed his report. He added that field work had been hit-and-miss with the wet weather. In addition he reported that their offices would be dealing with a national audit within the next month. Gerald Neeman has been hired to help with their national resources inventory. Their offices have been processing applications for the Nebraska Buffer Strip program.

**B. Five Rivers RC&D**

Kudrna reported their meeting was October 16 at Homestead National Monument at Beatrice. They are applying for a chemical lab grant to help with disposal of old chemicals at high schools. They are also working on the household hazardous waste and tire recycling grants.

**C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts**

Gigstad stated they had met in Valentine on November 10. The NARD's lobbyist, Bruce Cutshall, will be working in the office more, so they have hired someone to help on the floor. The NARD is sponsoring an FFA student to go to Washington, DC, on Ag Day; it is funded through the NARD Foundation. He reported on an NETF grant application to help with cost-share to increase tree planting. Crunk suggesting setting target areas for tree planting each year.

**D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission**

No report.

**E. Water Policy Task Force Report**

Sugden stated they met October 15 and had good attendance. They discussed an NETF application, irrigation management, and saw a video on the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force on the Republican River. The Water Policy Task Force is scheduled to sunset in 2009, and Senator Loudon felt it would be more likely to continue if the board size were reduced; therefore, they appointed a committee to look into that option.

9. **FY2008 AUDIT REPORT**

**White moved, seconded by Beethe, to approve the FY2008 Audit Report as presented. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth  
**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

10. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**A. Programs & Projects Committee**

1. *Bids for Repair Work on Ziegler Z-3 & Z-6-1:* Bids received were as follows:

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Bid</b>
Kuhl Trenching & Excavating	\$26,260.00
Maverick Rentals	\$31,905.60
<i>NRCS Cost Estimate: \$21,000</i>	

**Sherrow moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the bid of \$26,260.00 submitted by Kuhl Trenching & Excavating for repair work on Ziegler Z-3 and Z-6-1. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth  
**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

2. *Bids for Repair Work on Upper Little Nemaha 25 & 26:* Only one bid was received, from Prange Construction, for \$19,352.00. The NRCS cost estimate for the project, which included their estimated contractor fee plus purchase of fill material, seeding, and mulching, was \$86,200.

**Sherrow moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the bid of \$19,352.00 submitted by Prange Construction for repair work on Upper Little Nemaha 25 & 26. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth  
**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

3. ***Potential Hazard Mitigation Projects for FEMA All Hazards Mitigation Plan:*** No action was required on this item; however, if anyone had suggestions for potential items to include, they should convey those to the Manager.
4. ***Penalty for Removal of Cost-Shared Conservation Practice:***  
**Sherrow moved, seconded by Albrecht, to assess Buffalo Partners a penalty equal to 20 percent of the original cost-share provided of \$4,547.81 that was paid on land located in the NW1/4 of Section 32-7-9 in Otoe County. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth

**ABSTAINING:** Meyer

**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

## **B. Water Resources Committee**

1. ***Proposed Changes to Groundwater Management Plan & Rules:*** Wingert reviewed the timeline of events regarding the changes and DNR's comments.
2. ***Establish a Public Hearing Date for Present, Temporary, 180-Day Stay on Issuance of Well Permits & Groundwater Management Rules & Regulations:***  
Wingert explained that the hearing could be held prior to the board meeting next month on December 11 but not before that date; he suggested holding the hearing at 6:00. The board also discussed the DNR changes to the plan which Wingert explained were clarifications to make things clearer and define some terms.

**Weber moved, seconded by White, to send a letter to DNR in response to their comments on the Groundwater Management Plan. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

## **C. Operations & Education Committee**

1. ***Revisions to Urban Special Project Program Policy:*** The committee had reviewed some changes to the policy including ranking of applications, types of projects, geographical priorities, funding maximums, etc. A final policy will be presented for review and action next month. No action.

2. ***Seminar on NRD Responsibilities, Programs, & Projects for Directors:*** The committee was asking for input on topics, location, and dates. No action.
3. ***Potential Future Request to Allow Horses on the Steamboat Trace:*** Hilske explained that the Nebraska City Tourism office had contacted him about a group that would be visiting Nebraska City in the spring of 2010. This group would possibly be looking for places to ride horses. He brought this up to allow the board time to consider what questions and requirements it would have before even considering allowing this on a one-time, special event basis. No action.

#### **D. Executive Committee**

1. ***Recommendations on Land Rights Negotiations for Buck Creek Watershed Project:*** Kudrna stated the land rights are being offered based on the appraisals we had received. No action.
2. ***Proposed Grant Application to Share the Use and Cost of a Wood Chipper among Johnson County, City of Tecumseh, and NRD:***  
**Kudrna moved, seconded by Siske, to enter into an agreement to partner with Johnson County and the City of Tecumseh in a grant application for the purchase of a wood chipper.** Kudrna added that it appears there will be no cash requirement from the NRD for the grant. **Motion carried.**  
  
**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth  
**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier
3. ***Request by Orval Gigstad to Plant a Tree in Honor of Olin Sims:*** Gigstad explained the effort by NACD to honor the late Sims, who was President of NACD, with tree plantings accompanied by photos sent to NACD. The photos and descriptions will be placed a book in the NACD Olin Sims Conference Room in Washington, D.C. and shared with the Sims family. Gigstad suggested planting a tree at the NRD office on the board meeting before Arbor Day.
4. ***General Election Update & Plan for Filling Subdistrict 4 Vacancy:*** It was suggested that the vacancy in Subdistrict 4, which will occur after January 1, be advertised in January. No action.
5. ***Establish a Nominating Committee for Board Officers:*** Godemann asked for volunteers for the committee; Orval Gigstad and Ron Heskett agreed to serve on the committee.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS, DECEMBER MEETING DATE/TIME & AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

Godemann stated the next meeting would be December 11 at 7:00 p.m. Hilske announced the Flatwater Group would be at the next meeting to review the plans for Iron Horse and that the newly elected directors would be invited to attend.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Kudrna moved, seconded by Albrecht, to approve the consent agenda.** Consent agenda items: Excused Absences, Minutes, Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beehe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Kudrna moved, seconded by Albrecht, to adjourn. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beehe, Bohling, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Rush, Speece, Starr, Walker, Watermeier

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, December 11, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh. A public hearing for the Groundwater Management Plan will precede the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

*Approved 12/11/08*

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Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District